

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-16 were pending in this application. Claims 1 and 9 have been amended. Claims 4, 10, and 16 have been cancelled. No claims have been added. Hence, claims 1-3, 5-9, and 11-15 remain pending after entry of the amendments herein.

Reconsideration of the subject application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 4 and 8-15 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-8, 10, 16, 17, 21-24 and 27 of U.S. Patent No. 6,625,342 to Staple, et al. (hereinafter "Staple").

Claims 1-3, 9, 11, 13 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable in view of the cited portions of U.S. Patent No. 6,533,947 to Nasiri, et al. (hereinafter "Nasiri").

Enclosed herein, Attorney for the Applicants provides an Appointment of Associate Attorney Under 37 CFR § 1.34(b) and a newly-executed Terminal Disclaimer. Thus, the obviousness-type double patenting rejection is overcome.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of previously-allowable claim 4. Claim 9 has been amended to include the subject matter of previously-allowable claim 10. Thus, no new matter has been added and all claims now include allowable subject matter.

CONCLUSION

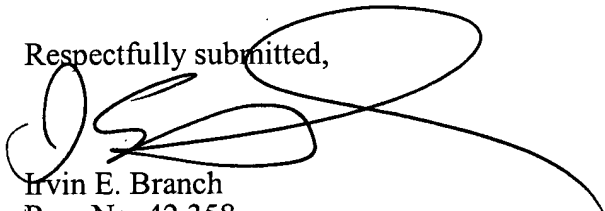
In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance and an action to that end is respectfully requested.

Appl. No. 10/632,662
Amdt. dated September 23, 2004
Amendment under 37 CFR 1.116 Expedited Procedure
Examining Group

PATENT

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,



Irvin E. Branch
Reg. No. 42,358

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 303-571-4000
Fax: 415-576-0300
IEB:arl
60297091 v1